में पंजा भी और भगत भी" और श्री भगत की.... (व्यवधान)

श्री सभापति : लाठर जी आप सवाल कर लो ना... (व्यवधान)

श्री महेन्द्र सिंह लाठर : मैं सवाल ही करने लगा हूं। ये क्या मंत्री महोदय के नोटिस में दैनिक जागरण के अखबार की 12 तारीख की खबर आई है, जिसमें कि मंत्री महोदय पर और फार्मर्मीनिस्टर भगत पर इलजामात लगाये है कि वह इस घपले के अन्दर शामिल है और इसके अन्दर श्री भगत की चिट्ठी भी छापी गई है। इस अखबार के अन्दर इलजाम लगाया है। आपने पूछा था कि स्पैसिफिक इंस्टेंस बताइये। आंध्र प्रदेश के चार फिल्म मेकर्स ने आठ-आठ लाख रुपया देकर अपने सीरियल के लिय पेमेंट किया है..... (व्यवधान) क्या ये आपके नोटिस में है.. (व्यवधान)

श्रीमति सत्या बहिन : भगतजी का नाम ले रहे हैं जो इस हाऊस के मेंबर नहीं है और दूसरा ये अखबार का रेफेंस दे रहे हैं इसमें कोई सच्चाई नहीं है .... (व्यवधान)

एक माननीय सदस्य : इसमें छपा क्या है .... (व्यवधान).. सर इन्होंने खुद ही छपवाया है... (व्यवधान)

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन : इन्होंने ठीक से पढ़ा ही नहीं है .. (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't take notice of it . जवाब दीजिए ..... (*Interruptions*) He is answering.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, it should be taken off the record.

..SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Sir, this type of newspapers do not come usually to our notice. But the hon. Member himself mentioned it in the Zero Hour. Therefore, our people are posted here to find out what the hon. Members say. That has come to our notice and I have sent it to find out what the details are of it. Sir, as I said, a group of vested interests is working. If you take me about the complaints made, there are umpteen number of complaints made against the Ministers of the previous Governments also, the just preceding Government. I do not want to go into this. That political mud-throwing goes on. The CBI has been given full power. I assure the House that CBI is an organisation which gets full power to go into the details of every thing, and if the hon. Member feels that he is sure about any corruption charge against me, he can take the responsibility and write a letter to the CBI to go into it, and I will face that inquiry.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Export of Pepsi Foods

*242. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 435 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th April, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government consider Pepsi Foods' exports from leased facilities as exports of their own manufactured goods towards the export commitment of 40 per cent;

(b) whether exports given as exports from select list are from products coming under appendix 16 of Export Import Policy April 1985—March 1988; and

(c) whether Pepsi Foods has met its export commitments so far as per the conditions of its foreign collaboration approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The entire matter regarding fulfilment of export obligation by M/s. Pepsi Foods Limited has been referred to the office of the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports, Ministry of Commerce. The matter is *sub judice* before quasi-judicial authority in CCI&E organisation.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Sir, on the 29th of August last year in reply to an Unstarred Question No. 633, the hon. Minister had stated that the matter was referred to the CCI&E, and the CCI&E

have issued a show cause notice. On the same day, in connection with the discussion on a Starred Question, you as Mr. Chairman had commented, and I quote from the Rajya Sabha proceedings of 29th August, 1991. It was a desire meant for the Minister from the Chair, and I quote: "You have found the sense of the House that you will take drastic action, quick action to see that they fulfil it or they quit." This was the desire expressed by the Chair...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, I didn't say that. I only summed up what you were saying.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: This is from the proceeding of the Rajya Sabha; it was the sense of the House...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I just summarised what you were saying, as I often do to sum up the long questions.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I understand this was the sense of the House which you summarised for guidance of the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, please; I didn't.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: In view of the sense of the House as summarised by the Chairman may I know from the Minister —already ten months have passed—at what stage does this *sub-judice* case or rather a quasi-judicial case stand, and what steps the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is taking to expedite a quick action as the sense of the House was expressed on 29th of August last year?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, humbly and respectfully I would like to submit that it is not only for the last ten months these points were raised by the hon. Member in this House, but from 1989 to 1992, there have been 86 Starred and Unstarred Questions on Pepsi. Mr. Dipen Ghosh himself has asked six Starred and Unstarred Questions. During 1991, there were six Starred Questions and six Unstarred Questions and in 1992, there have been eleven Unstarred Questions and five Starred Questions.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: But what is the quick action from the Government?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: All the questions put by the hon. Member and other Members have been replied to by the Ministry. Regarding the sense of the House expressed, I have referred the matter to the Ministry of Law to get their views about the turnover of the company as well as to the Ministry of Commerce about their own manufactured products which they have to export. All these come under the Ministry of Commerce. Hon. Member can directly put a question to the Ministry of Commerce to get a proper reply.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: As you are aware, when Pepsi was granted a licence, in this House there was a commitment from the then Government. In fact, a separate Food Processing Ministry was also created to help the farmers of our country, for proper utilisation of the surplus, perishable, horticultural produce. When Pepsi was granted the licence, there was a specific condition that Pepsi would use the surplus horticultural produce, mostly in the North-Western Region. The basic idea behind putting these conditionalities was to ensure that the Punjab farmers get the benefit out of it. But Pepsi Foods have not accepted these conditionalities. They have not fulfilled any of these commitments they had given. As a result, two successive Governments had initiated action, but no firm, effective action has been taken as yet. The Minister conceded, admitted, that I had put as many as 11 questions on this subject. But no effective, quick, action has been taken by the Government as yet. There was the sense of the House, Sir, which you had summarised on 29th August, 1991.

My second supplementary is, whether, pending this action, Pepsi has moved the Government to remove these conditions, to get themselves freed from fulfilling thsee commitments and thereby, evade any action by the Government? If so, will the Government assure the House that these conditionalities would be removed, and action would be taken, as quickly as possible?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, as far as the first part of the question is

concerned, all these matters have been referred to the Ministries of Law, Finance and Commerce. In regard to the second part of the question, I require fresh notice.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, right from the beginning, this project has been controversial. Many Members of this House and the other House objected to the very project. Nevertheless, permission was given to Pepsi to start this project, obviously, on the ground that this would help the farmers, the Punjab farmers, in particular. Now, this objective has not been fulfilled. But the hon. Minister is taking umbrage, saying that the whole matter is now referred to enquiry.

The fact is, there has been violation of the agreement. There has been violation of the terms of the agreement. This does not require any enquiry. When the things are very clear, where is the need for enquiry? I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what action has been taken by the Government in view of the clear violation of the terms and conditions of the agreement by this foreign company. Otherwise, the House will be left with no option but to draw the conclusion that the Government would like to remove the conditions imposed already.

This has happened in the past. There are several instances. Whenever a multinational company came to India, they accepted the conditions. Later on, these conditionalities were removed by the Government. My fear is, the same thing is going to happen in this case also. May I know from the Minister, therefore, whether he can assure that these conditionalities would not be removed, in spite of the liberalisation policy adopted by this Government?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, the question pertaining to export by Pepsi Foods, the question pertaining to the terms and conditions laid down in the letter of intent as well as in the collaboration approval, is under dispute, because of interpretation of the technical terms which are used. I have pursued with the Ministry of Law and Finance, as I have already said. Unless I get a reply from them... (*Interruptions*) it is too early for me to say.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: It does not require the Ministry of Law for this. No. There is a clear commitment on the part of the Company to export 40 per cent of the manufactured goods.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before they take action, they are consulting legal authorities.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Yes, we are seeking legal opinion.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Legal opinion for what? It is very clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They want legal opinion to see what action they can take.

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: The Law Ministry has already opined. If he is not putting it here, what am I to do?

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Sir, apart from fulfilling export obligations, the major violations by Pepsi Foods are: (1) Soft drinks have gone beyond the stipulated 25 per cent for which a show-cause notice has already been sent to them. Secondly, no efforts have been taken to start the agro-research centre. May I know why no action has so far been taken against them?

Under the Government's new policy, does the Government allow multinationals who violate terms and conditions to be let free? If not, why can't the Government immediately stop their soft drink production till other conditions are fulfilled?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Again it is not a related question. I require a separate notice for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhupinder Sing Mann.

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Sir, I seek your protection.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He requires another notice..

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Why does he require a separate notice when the question is relevant? The Minister has been trying to avoid the answer right from the beginning. You must come to the rescue of the House. No Minister should be allowed to get away like this. Why should not the Minister reply, to these relevant questions?

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: He has said that he has already dealt with 86 such questions from 1989 to 1992. Why does he not know about these small things, what is going on in his Ministry?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: The question may be relevant, but it is not relevant to the main question. That is why I require another notice.

श्री भूपेन्द्र सिंह मान : क्योंकि किसानों के संबंध में फूड प्रोसेसिंग को जरूरी समझते हुए इस प्रोजेक्ट को आगे लाने की इजाजत दी गयी थी सरकार की तरफ से और इसके ऊपर पेप्सी पर कुछ कंडीशन्स लगाई गयी थीं पंजाब में । उन कन्डीशन्स में लगता ऐसा है, जान-बूझ कर कुछ चोर मोरियां रखी गयीं, लूप-होल्स रखे गये जिसकी वजह पेप्सी को न कोई डर है, न भय है और न कामेटमेंट पूरा करने का कोई डर है । तो क्या सरकार जो यह जानबूझ कर चोर मोरियां रखी गयीं हैं या जिन अफसरों ने रखी हैं उनके ऊपर कोई एक्शन लेने वाली हैं ? जो इससे संबधित हैं उन पर कोई एक्शन सरकार लेने वाली है ? क्योंकि पेप्सी पर तो आप कुछ कर नहीं सकते लेकिन जो इसके लिय दोषी हैं उन पर आप कोई कार्यवाई करेंगे यह बताने की कृपा करें ।

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: They were to fulfil the terms and conditions. Already all these actions have been taken by the Government and we are trying to see that they fulfil the terms and conditions as laid down in the letter of intent and Foreign Colloboration approval, including these two aspects which the hon. Member is referring to.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

ग्रामीण उद्योगों के विकास पर शोध करने वाला राष्ट्रीय कृतिक

†243 **श्री राम जेठमलानी:**

श्री रणजीत सिंह :

क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 29 अप्रैल, 1992 के दैनिक "ट्रिब्यून" में "नेशनल टास्क फोर्स टू हेल्प विलेज इण्डस्ट्रीज" शीर्षक से छपे समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) ग्रामीण उद्योगों के विकास के लिये इस कृतिक बल को विशेष रूप से कौन-कौन से उद्योगों पर शोध करने का कार्य सौंपा गया है ;

(ग) क्या इस कृतिक बल से किसी निर्धारित समय सीमा के भीतर अपना प्रतिवेदन दिये जाने का आग्रह किया गया है ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो वह समय-सीमा क्या है ; और

(ङ) यदि उपर्युक्त भाग (ग) का उत्तर "ना" हो तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) A Task Force for the development of thermal energy systems for rural industries using bio-

†सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री राम जेठ मलानी द्वारा पूछा गया ।